

MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



VOLUME 3
No. 9



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EDITORIAL COMMENT

The campaign for the planting of Victory Gardens is everywhere meeting with a good response. This is partly because the hope of victory heartens people again to a renewed effort. It is more because here is a practical task that a great many people can engage in. We have been slow to find such tasks but the threat of a shortage of food is one that the average man understands and when it comes as close to home as the present one does it cannot easily be ignored.

The possibility of serious shortages is real. Armies must be fed. Commitments to Allies will get priority over home needs for many commodities. Labour is not available for the processing of foods to the extent that it has been in other years. Less food and in smaller variety will be available for home consumption. Those people will be surest of their food supply who can increase it greatly by their own primary production. They will incidentally be releasing supplies for other people and other purposes. 'It takes a pitchfork behind every bayonet', says one American slogan. 'Overalls are as honorable as a uniform', says another. Whatever one we adopt let us be sure that no stone remains unturned that would prevent a plant from producing food for victory.

Training Men to Farm

In a mechanized war, it was early accepted that men had to be trained to play their part. But until recently it has been assumed that nearly anybody could farm. Now in the fourth year of the war and with the food needs of the immediate post-war world becoming evident we are beginning to see that training for efficient production of food is imperative.

To this end the colleges are being asked to submit plans for the training of demobilized men who are to be re-habilitated after the war.

Agricultural Colleges generally deny that it is their business to teach people how to farm. They prefer to see it as their job to help those who are already farmers to farm more efficiently. It may be, however, that there is a place for a type of 'farm school' where the training for the actual job of producing food will be undertaken. That this training must include experience in the many farm operations is generally accepted. The problems involved in organization and direction are now under discussion. Among the readers of the Journal are many farmers and farm leaders whose suggestions would be welcomed.

The Cover Picture

Girls from city and country will dig Victory Gardens this year. Here the Perry sisters tend their cousin's garden at Ste. Foy in after hours from their city office job.

Perversity — Thy Name Is Pig!

As an outstanding example of obstinacy and perversity, I give you the pig. Or to be more specific—the sow—pure-bred for choice. For sheer intractability among the domestic animals, she reigns supreme, determination being her chief characteristic, and disregard of restraining influences the key to her philosophy, says Katharine Howard in the *Farm and Ranch Review*.

Provide her with a two-acre run, sown lavishly to oats, that with their juicy verdure should satisfy the gastronomic yearnings of any self respecting pig, and what does she do? Does she browse among the succulent stalks and leaves, the epitome of contentment? She does not.

She methodically and competently works at the confining fence, until, with an ability surprising in one of her girth, she can scramble over it, and then she heads for the garden. Here, with a zeal worthy of a better cause, she triumphantly roots out all your best beloved gladioli bulbs, devours a couple of rows of lettuce, helps herself to most of your early peas, and charges through the beets and carrots, creating havoc, just for the fun of it.

Then, having reduced the work of many weeks to a welter of herbage, she proceeds out of the garden, wiggling through the gap in the fence, like a hula dancer minus a grass skirt, and down the road.

By now, the alarm has gone forth that she's out, and the various members of the family are pressed into service to try to persuade her to come home.

Man proposes, but the sow disposes. With an airy nonchalance, she pivots and feints, sidesteps and twirls, trots into the ditch and out of the ditch, dashes past mother vainly shooing at her with her blue-checked apron, and father threatening her with a manure fork, runs around them and dashes past again, until they see not one sow, but many.

Finally, when everyone in a state bordering on nervous exhaustion, decides to go home and let the darn pig go to town if she wants to, pound or no pound, she turns around and sedately walks towards home and her pen, grunting amiably.

She flops on her nice clean straw, and eyes her trough in bland inquiry. She has had enough exercise temporarily, and craves more food and sleep. And so for a time peace reigns.

Only for a while, however. Shortly she is to present you with 15 or 16 (you hope) piglets. Accordingly you have made her pen extra comfortable and cosy—warm and sheltered. All the leaky places in the roof are mended and everything has been prepared for her well-being. And how she does appreciate your concern.

It rains in the night. It pours. You don a raincoat and an old hat and wander disconsolately through the deluge to make sure the pig is all right. The door of the pen is broken down and she is gone. There is the clean sweet-smelling straw, the warm comfort of her nest, but the bird is flown.

With rain dripping off your hat and down your neck, and with big drops splashing on to the lantern with a sizzling sound, you follow her tracks around the barnyard and down the lane. You splash through water and flounder through mud, and mutter epithets regarding your pet, until you come to a dilapidated old shed.

Here, on the dirt floor, where there is no vestige of any kind of straw, the rain coming through the large holes in the roof, and falling down on her, is your pride and joy, your sow, contentedly grunting, and rolling her cunning little eyes at you, while 10 little pigs squirm about her!

No one can hazard a guess or form an opinion why sows behave in such a manner. The ways of animals are mysterious and inscrutable. Perhaps some latent force in a pig's makeup resents authority and coercion, and finds expression in rebellion.

Perhaps her mutinous instinct is hereditary; acquired through generations of pigs from the first wild boar who charged his attackers in the forest, and fought them stubbornly and fiercely. Whatever the reason, the fact remains, whether white or black, brown or spotted—Perversity, thy name is Pig.

MACDONALD COLLEGE SUMMER SCHOOL OF HANDICRAFTS

May 10 to Aug. 31 inclusive 1943

Ivan H. Crowell, Director

The Macdonald College Handicrafts Division is offering its complete facilities for classes in craft work during the summer months.

Adults from "out of town" may obtain board and lodging in the College Residence. Students may begin and end classes by arrangement at any time. Formal classes are not held; all instruction is individual. Students learn by making what they want to make. Registration is accepted only when space and equipment are available and reserved for each student.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSES

Woodwork — a. wood turning—bowls, plates, lamp stands, egg

cups, etc. b. furniture making — tables, book cases, wall brackets, games and sports equipment, looms.

Weaving — scarves, handbags, ties, rugs, curtains, on hand, table and foot power looms.

Rug Hooking — with rug yarns and cloth scraps.

Leatherwork — belts, purses, slippers, gloves, writing cases and ornamenting them with tooling, stamping and coloring.

Lino-block Printing — Christmas, birthday, greeting and place cards, book plates and pictures.

Materials as wood, wool, leather, etc., will be supplied at cost.

Fees — For adults, 16 years or over, who wish to live in the college residence or the village and work each day:

Tuition per week	\$ 5.00
Board and lodging in residence per week	8.00
Average cost of materials (students pay only for what they use)	5.00
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We are doing a good job in this fight when we produce all we can to help to feed fighters, workers in factories making munitions, and allies who look to Canada for food.

We can do more . . . we can buy Victory Bonds, to lend money to Canada to help to insure victory. Canada needs every dollar that every Canadian can save. And when the war is over our Victory Bonds, and the interest they will earn for us, will provide cash to pay for many things we will want to buy for our own needs.



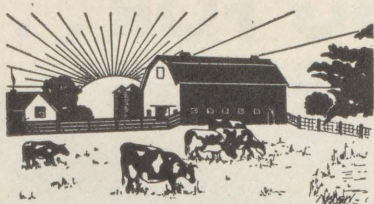
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AGRICULTURE

Articles on problems of the farm

PRODUCING A CROP OF ROOTS

by L. C. Raymond

To obtain the best results with any crop it is necessary to study carefully its characteristics and requirements and then plan to meet these as fully as possible in the methods employed. When we apply such a yardstick to the root crop, what do we find?

1. The possibility of a high yield. Twenty-five tons (1000 bus.) would class as a good crop, but thirty to forty tons (1200 to 1600 bus.) per acre are by no means unknown.

2. This high yield presents a bigger bulk to handle from field to storage than with any other crop.

3. The area on any one farm devoted to roots is small. A recent incomplete survey, on farms growing roots showed the average to be between one and two acres.

4. The heavy production requires heavy fertilization, the basis for which is barnyard manure. This must also be transported in greater quantity than for the other farm crops.

5. Soil should be well prepared for all crops but extra care is justified with roots since good tilth and weed destruction can greatly reduce the hand labour required.

Location, Rotation, and Soil Preparation

Choose a field of from four to six acres, as close to the barn as possible. Good drainage, either natural or otherwise is essential and the soil should be preferably not heavier than a good loam. A three-year rotation such as roots, barley or wheat and clover, will provide the best possible conditions for root growing. Barley or wheat are chosen rather than oats, because they will stand up better under the intensive system suggested. Considerable modification of this rotation may be made, but a clover crop should precede the roots as nothing will make a greater contribution to a good yield.

Management is just as important as the rotation itself. Preparation for the root crop should start well in advance. The clover section should be ploughed by mid-August or earlier, if perennial weeds are involved and the breaking followed by sufficient tillage to keep down all growth. Late in the fall is the best time to put on the manure where an application of anything up to fifteen tons is justified. A deep ploughing just before the freeze-up will incorporate the manure and leave the land in shape so that it may be rapidly prepared for planting in the spring.

In spite of the manure application and the clover sod

ploughed down, most fields will justify at least a light treatment with commercial fertilizers. No exact recommendation that will apply generally can be given. In many cases, best results may follow the use of an 0-14-7, while in others a 2-16-6 or a 2-12-10 may be better. The only final answer is a trial on the field in question where a simple experiment could readily be devised to show both the best kind and the most economical rate. With the previous treatment outlined from 200 to 300 lbs. per acre is likely to prove sufficient. The general prevalence of "brown heart" makes it advisable to add some "borax" to the fertilizers being applied. On really acid soils, 15 lbs. per acre will usually suffice, but where the soil is sweet or nearly neutral from 35 to 50 lbs. will be required. Owing to the toxic nature of borax, it should be thoroughly mixed with the fertilizer before putting it on the land. The most feasible present method of applying the commercial fertilizer is to broadcast it on the furrow before starting the spring preparation.

To get the land in shape for planting in the spring should be relatively an easy matter. The disk, followed by the smoothing harrows should quickly accomplish this and result in a well tilled surface soil and yet one that is firm below.

This treatment of location, rotation, and soil preparation, gives the fullest possibility for the root crop to express its high yielding qualities. The relatively small area is set aside from the general rotation and the fertility



Using the slanting-tooth type of spike harrow as a thinning aid.

and treatment kept on a higher level than on other farm land. Contrasted with this in many cases roots are planted in the general farm rotation where weeds are prevalent and fertility inadequate. Another very common custom is that of breaking a section of an old pasture area, often far from the barn, and quite inaccessible. Neither of these latter plans can give the results that should be obtained with this crop.

Planting and Management Details

Time: The results of all experiments point definitely to the advantage of early planting. In a ten-year trial at Macdonald College, where the first planting was made each year on May 8th and subsequently at two-week intervals, the results showed a crop having the relative value for mangels of 100, 84, and 66; and for swedes, of 100, 86, 68, and 49, for the respective dates of planting. The toll taken as a result of delayed planting is thus very evident.

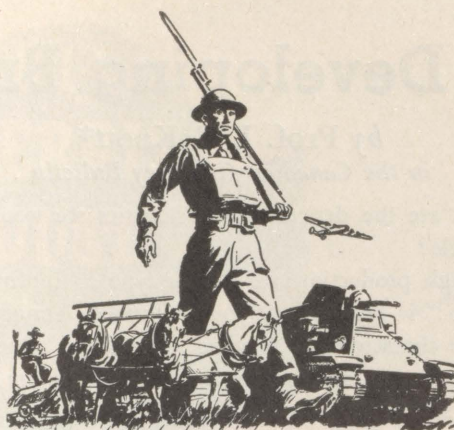
Rate: With good seed, 5 lbs. of mangels and $1\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of swedes is ample on well prepared ground, but if the quality of seed is not assured, sufficient should be used in making certain of a full stand.

Method: Several things are involved in the method of planting. Level planting is preferable to drilling, particularly in the drier parts, since putting the land up in drills is an additional expense and one that is very wasteful of moisture. Level planting also provides the possibility of a labour saving practice in thinning mentioned below. Rows should be spaced from 28" to 30" apart for convenience in horse cultivation. Actually putting the seed in the ground can be done with any of the various types of row seeders, but the Planet Jr., is as satisfactory as any. Care should be taken to keep the rows straight.

Thinning or Singling: Where the crop has been planted on the level, the soil well prepared, and the surface free of trash and stones, much labour can be saved in thinning by lightly cross-harrowing the rows with a slanting-toothed spike harrow, or better still, a weeder. This not only removes many of the excess plants, but is a very effective first cultivation which otherwise would have to be done row by row. This process should be undertaken when the first true leaf is fully formed. The final thinning should be done with a hoe. This is much preferable to hand thinning since the soil is all stirred and weeds are further controlled. Mangels should be finally spaced, in the row, at about 8" apart and swedes from 10" to 12". Prompt singling of the plants is essential both on account of its effect on yield and also from the standpoint of the ease of performing the operation.

Cultivation: Following thinning, row cultivation should be taken care of. The main objective is weed control. Three or four such cultivations are usually required at intervals of a week to ten days. If the various steps in preparation and handling have been faithfully done, there should be no specific hand-hoeing required.

(Continued on page 27)



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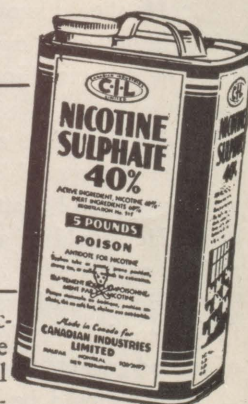
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Developing Breeds of Dairy Cattle

by Prof. J. C. Knott*
in the *Canadian Guernsey Bulletin*

What are the desirable characteristics we want in our dairy cattle?

1. High production; 2. Proper type or conformation;
3. Health; 4. Fertility; 5. Prepotency; 6. Longevity.

These characteristics may be affected or influenced by environment and by heredity. None of them can be neglected if success is to be achieved. To breed and maintain a herd with these characteristics is a difficult task and requires the best ability and information.

We hear a great deal about the characteristics of dairy cattle that are essential in a breeding program, but very little about the essential characteristics of the breeder himself. While I know of no short cuts on the road to breeding better dairy cattle, there are certain attributes that may be acquired or cultivated by a breeder that will prevent many mistakes and detours.

1. First of all he should be a good farmer and a good dairyman.

(a) Having a knowledge of soils and crops to conserve or improve the fertility of the farm and to grow the best crops to efficiently produce the greatest possible amount of nutrients necessary for the proper nutrition of the herd.

(b) To feed properly and care for the herd for most efficient growth, development and production and to produce economically milk of high nutritive value and unquestionable purity.

2. He should know the history of his chosen breed, for with a thorough knowledge of its foundation and development he can more intelligently shape its improvement in the future.

3. He should be a reasonably good judge as an aid in selection and should be a close observer, so that essentials will not escape his attention.

4. He should be able to see the faults in his own animals as readily as in those of other breeders.

5. He should have a sound working knowledge of the fundamental principles of inheritance and the physiology of reproduction.

6. He should be alert to learn and apply new principles as they are established and should not be misled by the exception to the general rule.

7. He must have an ideal, a goal in mind toward which he is working. This ideal must be consistent with possibilities and demand and capable of attainment. This ideal should be so fundamentally correct that changes are seldom necessary. The breeder who changes his course with every shift in the breeze of popular opinion is seldom if ever successful.

8. He must not only have an ideal, but a well-defined and workable program for attaining it. He should know what he wants to do and how to do it.

9. He must be honest and dependable.

In formulating a breeding program there are three fundamental practices that I believe must be adopted before success is possible. They are:

1. A sound health program. Only healthy cows can produce efficiently.

2. A continuous testing program. No breeder of dairy cattle can hope to achieve continued success without production records. Continuous testing of all cows in the herd will give the best information for a sound breeding program.

3. Intelligent use of records. To cull inefficient producers and to measure the hereditary make-up of sires and breeding cows.

The intelligent selection of breeding stock is the only foundation on which a breeding program can be built, and the above listed factors are essential to intelligent selection.

In making our selections we must bear in mind that: (1) The sire and dam contribute equally to the hereditary factors which go to make up an individual; and (2) the production of a cow may not indicate the production she will transmit to her offspring.

Some cow families have proved themselves better producers and also better reproducers than others. It would only seem to be good sense when such a family is discovered to develop a breeding program around this proved family. I am in this sense an advocate of breeding along certain blood lines or family lines.

The selection of the herd sire is undoubtedly the most important factor in herd improvement. Some people have gone so far as to say that our females are not important in breeding better dairy cattle. I heartily disagree with this attitude. Even though the sire has a "half interest" in all of his daughters and any one cow may have only one or two daughters, we cannot afford to overlook the effect of each cow's inheritance on any one animal, and our herd is made up of individual animals. Another thing we must remember is that the sire himself gets half of his factors from a cow, his dam.

The greater the number of characteristics we consider, the greater is the difficulty in selecting breeding stock. Nevertheless, we should not overlook any of the characteristics mentioned at the beginning.

Lifetime records are coming into their own, and I think it is a step in the right direction. In making up information that is of real value in selecting breeding stock, the average record is of more real value than the single high record.

*Department of Dairy Husbandry, State College of Washington.

I am for well-proved bulls, but every proved bull was at one time a young unproved bull, and there are not nearly enough proved bulls to go around.

I believe that if we exercise real judgment in the selection of young bulls we can cut down the percentage of disappointment very materially.

In choosing a young bull, I should like to select a son of a bull that has definitely shown that he is quite uniformly transmitting those desirable characteristics that we have discussed. We may have to make some concessions in this respect, but let us keep them in mind all of the time and come as close to our ideals as possible and not be easily satisfied.

I should like to select a son of a cow that meets fully those requirements that we set down in the beginning. The dam of our bull should not only be a great cow herself, but be out of a family of good cows, and should have demonstrated that she is transmitting those characteristics. In addition, I should like to have her the daughter of such a bull as we described for the sire of our young bull.

Hard to find such a calf? Yes, but the man who doesn't look for that kind is not likely to find them, and we should keep our ideal before us at all times.

Pedigrees may often be misleading to one who has not studied them. Some people sneer at the value of pedigrees in selecting breeding stock. After all, pedigrees are merely records of relatives and if those records are complete and accurate, they can be of no small value in selection. Some pedigrees are of absolutely no value at all while others may be of a great deal of value. They must be accompanied by additional information and observation, and a breeder must be able to interpret them properly.

I think a great aid in selection is herd sire analysis and herd analysis. If one has all of the necessary information and a sufficient number of a bull's daughters to make a real analysis of his transmitting ability, that information is of value in telling us what our young bull is likely to transmit. This information should not just include the best daughter's records, but should include all records of all daughters. We should not only be interested in the average production of the daughters, but the range of their records as well. For an extreme example, the average of 200 and 1000 is 600, but this average gives us no real information on the individuals that go to make up that average. Where averages of daughters and dams are compared, I should like to know how many daughters equalled or exceeded their dams.

Herd analysis also gives very valuable information because one can then select the best breeding families from which to select his herd sire, or what family to concentrate his breeding on to the best advantage.

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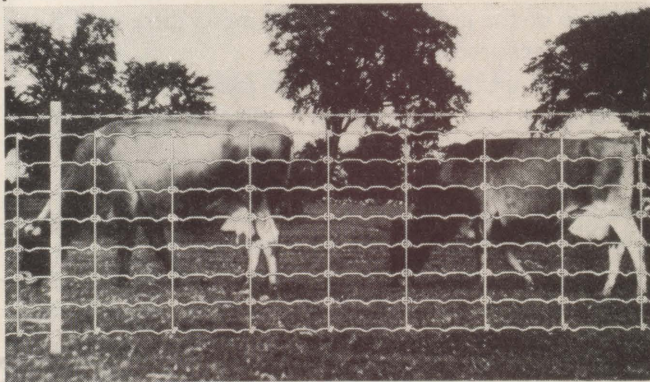
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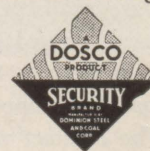
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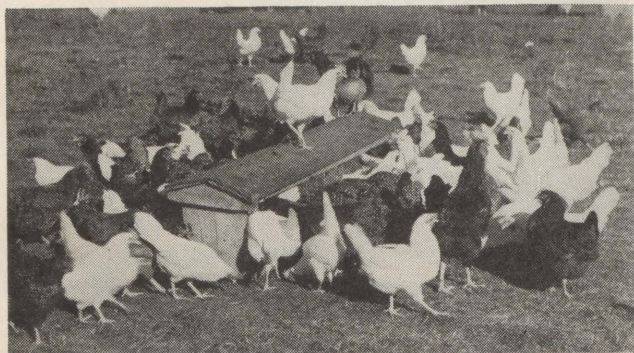
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Eggs and Poultry for 1943

Flock owners — make your objective for 1943 two more eggs per month from every hen, especially those in farm flocks. Don't market the layers — keep them laying. Feed cockerel chicks for meat production.



Every one of these must lay two dozen more eggs this year.

We can't produce too many eggs in 1943 — every egg of good quality that can be produced will be needed and will find a ready market. Eggs rank high among the needed foods for the rations of armed forces, export to the United Kingdom and countries of the United Nations, ship stores and domestic consumption.

Efficiency in feeding and management directed at the highest possible production from every layer should be practised by all flock owners. This will result in more eggs, lower production costs and higher profits.

We are also required to produce more poultry meat. In 1943 we will apparently need at least 260,000,000 pounds in Canada — an increase of 10% over 1942. Because of the general shortage of meats there need be no fear of over-production.

Market poultry can be grown and finished in a relatively short time, so maximum production offers an opportunity to develop greater consumption.

Many poultrymen are equipped to plan a special programme of meat production. Buy cockerel chicks: put an extra flock through the brooder house: feed and manage for quick growth and proper finish: market some of the birds early: market regularly. Broilers, roasters three pounds and up, fowl that have finished laying, all will sell readily. There is a profit to be made from market poultry.

The British Contract

Our contract with Great Britain calls for the equivalent of 2,100,000 cases of eggs and more will be accepted if they are available. The value of the contract, delivered seaboard, packed as required by the British Ministry of Food, is from \$24,500,000 to \$27,500,000 depending on the quantity shipped.

The contract was negotiated on a price per pound of dried egg powder f.o.b. seaboard. Previous contracts, when eggs were shipped in shell form, were on a price per dozen basis. The change was made at the request of the British Ministry of Food.

What the Prices Are

Standards for dried eggs have been prepared and the price for 1943 is \$1.16 per pound in bulk f.o.b. seaboard for Grade A product. The total pack is to be about equally divided between 14-pound containers for restaurant use and 5-ounce packages (equivalent to a dozen eggs) for household use. Additional price allowances are made for such packaging but any savings in packaging are to accrue to the British Ministry of Food.

The contract price of \$1.16 per pound for dried eggs is equivalent to approximately 42 cents per dozen for shell eggs at seaboard depending upon the yield of dried eggs obtained per case of shell eggs. This price was arrived at by taking the contract price for Grade A shell eggs last year (29 cents) plus the bonus (3 cents) and adding to this amount 3 cents to cover increased cost of production in 1943, making a net price of 35 cents or better for Grade A Large at seaboard. To this price must be added charges amounting to between 7 and 8 cents per dozen to cover freight on shell eggs, breaking and drying charges, freight to seaboard on the dried eggs, short and long storage on shell eggs, storage on frozen eggs, freight on frozen eggs, storage on dried eggs in transit, etc.

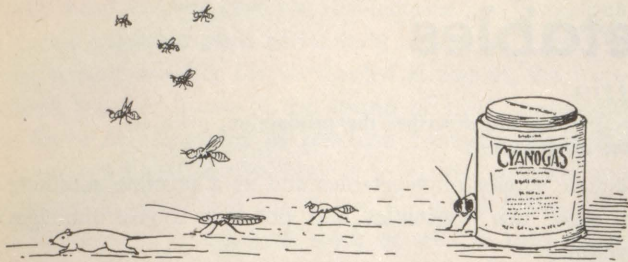
Some leeway is necessary in the matter of expense. This cannot be determined in advance to the last fraction of a cent. Under these circumstances therefore, the average price for Grade A Large will range between 35 and 36 cents per dozen seaboard. The Special Products Board has no funds of its own for the purchase of eggs. It must operate within the amount of the British Treasury Sanction placed to its credit in the Bank of Canada for that purpose.

The bonus of 3 cents a dozen for A Large provided by the Canadian Government last year is this year included in the contract price with Great Britain. The January price list provided a premium of 2 cents a dozen for Grade A over Grade B. Medium and 5 cents for Grade A Large over Grade B. It will be the policy of the Board to continue special premiums for quality throughout the period of the contract.

Quality Eggs Required

Not only is the egg contract a war necessity but it is a great commercial venture as well. As practically all Canadian egg powder going to Great Britain will be used in egg dishes, it is of the utmost importance that not only the quality of the shell eggs but also the methods of processing, packaging and handling be of the highest possible standard. During 1942 eighty-two percent of all eggs purchased by the Special Products Board were Grade A.

CYANOGAS FOR PEST CONTROL



For many years hydrocyanic acid gas (cyanide gas) has been employed for fumigation purposes. The original method of generating the gas was by the "pot method", where sodium or potassium cyanide is combined with sulphuric acid and water in a glass or stone container. This process has been very largely replaced by the use of Cyanogas, a trade name for calcium cyanide and a material which has facilitated the use of cyanide as a fumigant, as the ease with which Cyanogas is applied is a big advance over the old "pot method". The danger of asphyxiation still remains as in the case where any form of cyanide for enclosed space fumigation is used, but since the gas is generated by the action of atmospheric moisture upon the Cyanogas, the process is slower, which gives the operator more time to finish his work in connection with the application of the material.

Cyanogas is used successfully for controlling certain insect and related pests, as well as against rats, mice and other rodents. One group of insects that are usually a wide-spread and annual annoyance are the ants. They not only affect the gardener, but also the housewife when they find their way into pantries and other places where food is kept. These insects are readily killed when the prescribed amount of Cyanogas is introduced into the nest. This fumigant is also widely used against rats which are often difficult to exterminate with traps and ordinary poisons. Rats are destructive, not only because of the vast amounts of food they devour, but also because of their burrowing habits and the damage they do to buildings. Today, when food conservation is of world-wide importance, every effort should be made to exterminate these rodents and one of the most satisfactory means of doing so, is by pumping Cyanogas into their burrows which are then blocked. Ground hogs sometimes become a nuisance when they make their dens in hay fields. They may be controlled by the same method as that used against rats.

Cyanogas is also used for enclosed space fumigation against various stored products and household insects, as well as against those occurring in the greenhouse. After making the space to be fumigated as airtight as possible, Cyanogas is thinly spread over the floors on dry newspapers, except in greenhouses, and the fumigation is allowed to continue for the specified time, after which papers bearing the residue are gathered up and disposed of. This is a relatively simple operation entailing a mini-

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imum amount of preparation as a rule. When fumigating dwellings, it is necessary that local regulations governing fumigation with poison gas must be strictly adhered to. However, no such regulations pertain to the use of Cyanogas for other purposes, although intelligent care must be exercised in handling and applying it.

Wartime Marketing of Fruits and Vegetables

by F. Shefrin

(This article deals with fruits (excluding apples) and vegetables and describes the production, price and export policies of the last three years.)

In the last three years, coarse grains, bacon, cheese and eggs have held the spotlight in Canadian agricultural production. However, fruits and vegetables have played an important role in providing food for a balanced diet both at home and abroad. Dehydrated vegetables are being sent in increasing quantities to Great Britain for consumption by the armed forces.

Commercial fruit production is confined to the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia, the West part of the province of Quebec, the section of Ontario near the St. Lawrence River, Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Huron, and the Okanagan Valley and Kootenay district of British Columbia. In the case of vegetables, commercial production is to be found in the southern part of Ontario, the Okanagan and Fraser Valleys in British Columbia, Western Quebec, the Maritimes, Taber, Alberta, and in the Winnipeg district in Manitoba.

Production Objectives, 1943

At the National Conference held in Ottawa during the first week in December, 1942, representatives of the Dominion Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture agreed on production objectives designed to help meet the needs of the United Nations and the Domestic market. The tentative national objectives were allocated among the provinces on the basis of the estimated capacity to produce.

The objective for fresh fruit is set at 899,750,000 pounds which is considerably in excess of the 1942 estimated production of 839,726,000 pounds.

In the case of potatoes the goal is to secure 70,000,000 bushel yield from 560,000 acres — an eleven per cent increase over 1942 plantings. The greatest increases are called for in areas of commercial production close to large consuming centres and processing plants.

The Conference agreed that an increase in acreage of all kinds of green vegetables, celery excepted, appears to be desirable in order to guarantee a production level at least equal to 1942. In view of the fact that an adequate supply of metal containers has been assured for peas, snap beans, corn, and tomatoes, it is desirable that production should be adequate to provide all the canners can process. There will also be some increase in the amount of cabbage required for dehydration.

The root vegetables programme calls for a 1943 production at least equal to 1942 and to insure production on this level some increase in acreage would appear necessary. Dehydration requirements will take substantial quantities of carrots. The turnip crop is to be increased to insure an

adequate supply of vegetables and as a possible substitute for other raw vegetables and potatoes should shortages develop.

Vegetable seed production has shown a marked increase in the last four years and a further upward revision is called for in 1943. Thus in the case of onions the average production for 1939-41 period was 44,431 pounds, as compared with the estimated 1942 production of 113,000 pounds. Similar relative increases occurred in the production of beans, cabbage, carrots, cucumbers, radishes, tomatoes, etc. The 1943 objectives are based on the aim to produce as much of the domestic requirements as possible with enough in addition to meet British contracts.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has also launched a campaign to encourage home and community vegetable gardens. Provincial Governments have been requested to support the programme for wartime gardens and have been asked to bring the matter to the attention of municipal councils, horticultural societies, Women's Institutes and local service organizations so as to enlist their assistance in this project. Potatoes are particularly recommended as suitable for community garden schemes, and such vegetables as carrots, cabbage, tomatoes, onions, snapbeans, green peas, sweet corn, lettuce, beets, radish, cucumbers and spinach are recommended for both home and community gardens.

Maintenance of Supply of Vegetable Seeds

To insure adequate supplies of various varieties of vegetable seeds (and field root seeds) in Canada for the duration of the war, the Seed Supply Committee:—

(a) Was authorized in March, 1940, to spend \$2,000 for the purchase and distribution to farmers in suitable vegetable seed producing areas, small lots of base stock seeds of beets, carrots, cauliflower, citrons, corn, cucumbers, egg-plant, lettuce, onions, radish, tomatoes, beans, peas, and other seeds to be used to increase production;

(b) Under authority of Orders-in-Council and to safe-guard Canada's position in the supplies of principal vegetable seeds developed a Field, Root and Garden Vegetable Seed Production Programme under which is given a guarantee to buy from seed growers who contract to grow specified acreages of designated seeds any seed which is not purchased from them by the trade. During 1941 this arrangement was made for approximately 766 acres to be seeded to beans, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, cucumbers, onions, radishes, lettuce, spinach, tomatoes, Swede turnips, and mangels. The programme was continued through 1942 and into 1943 on a greater acreage.

Furthermore, in response to the request made by the British Food Mission that Canada increase her production of certain vegetable seeds particularly carrots and onions in order to have supplies for the United Kingdom, the Agricultural Supplies Board in the spring of 1942, authorized the Seeds Administrator to purchase from the trade the necessary seed and to distribute it to various growers and to encourage production for United Kingdom delivery.

To maintain an adequate stock of seed to meet Canadian requirements export permit control has been applied to all vegetable seeds.

Price Policy

Fresh fruits and vegetables were among the first of agricultural products to be exempted from the price ceiling as it was recognized by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board that supplies would be impaired if rigid price ceilings were maintained and also because of the difficulty of administering such perishable products.

There have been exceptions to the above exemption as in the case of potatoes and onions. Specific ceilings were imposed when it was felt that the rise in prices was too great. Thus, in the beginning of January, 1942, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board stabilized onion prices because of speculative buying of onions with the resulting higher price to consumers. Potatoes are part of almost everyone's diet and enter into the cost of living calculations. As a result the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has paid close attention to potato prices and several orders have been issued to control them.

The latest order, Number 236, which replaces all previous orders and includes every ruling now in effect on potato prices became effective March 1.

The order divides Canada into four areas and sets wholesale potato prices for each area. Area 1 is all of Canada east of Ft. William including the city. Area 2 is from Ft. William west to the Saskatchewan-Alberta boundary. Area 3 is Alberta and the Peace River Block of northern British Columbia. Area 4 is the rest of British Columbia.

Transportation costs are allowed in the setting of maximum prices. In addition, to allow for waste in storage from sprouting, rotting, and shrinking, wholesalers may add a fixed amount to maximum prices in the period stated in the order. This method makes allowances for seasonal increases in potato prices.

Farmers selling to wholesalers, retailers or other dealers must not charge more than the wholesale prices set out in the order plus the seasonal increases as they become due. It should be added here that sales of certified seed potatoes are exempt from the provisions of the order.

Canning Crops

The Wartime Prices and Trade Board Order Number 148 of June, 1942, established maximum prices for 1942 packs of tomatoes, peas, corn, green and wax beans and tomato juice; and also fixed prices for certain canned



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(Continued on page 26)



CO-OPERATION AND MARKETING

A page of interest to members of farmers' co-operatives

Quebec – Home of Co-operatives

(First part of a radio address by H. C. Bois, general manager of the Co-operative Fédérée. A second installment will appear next month.)

Cooperative achievements in the province of Quebec are many and important. They deserve the attention of the sociologist as well as the economist.

Cooperation has been known and practised for a long time. It began with fire insurance, then extended to savings and credit, and almost at the same time to collective marketing and purchasing. Then later on it included co-operative stores and life insurance, to mention only its more advanced forms.

The first cooperatives were formed by farmers. They did not possess all the characteristics of modern associations, but they belonged unquestionably to the cooperative group.

Farm Co-ops

The first rural cooperative, a marketing and purchasing society, was organized in Adamsville in 1903. But it would be wrong to assume that it was breaking new ground. Farmers already had societies of butter and cheese makers, and in 1892 one of these groups framed its regulations in accordance with cooperative principles. There is no doubt that in those days several societies of the same type were drafting similar regulations for themselves.

In any case, cooperatives have known periods of success and failure. It would take too long to explain why. There are many factors involved, among which are the impact of economic conditions, disagreement on principles, and government intervention. During the first 25 years these farming cooperatives prospered with difficulty.

In 1930 the Quebec Legislature passed the Cooperative Societies Act. Since then, over 350 societies have been organized in the Province and less than 5% of them have failed, a remarkable sign of strength and good management. In 1931 there 104 non-federated cooperatives. They had a total membership of 10,500, a paid up capital of \$205,000, and their net profits amounted to \$2,393. On Jan. 1, 1941, statistics show 418 societies, totalling 32,284 members with a paid up capital of \$1,175,000, sales amounting to \$21,000,000, and a net profit of \$475,000. The functions of these cooperatives are varied. Only about 25 of them deal with a single product: honey, tobacco, maple syrup, flax, etc. But organisers have preferred to have their cooperatives meet all their needs. Being engaged in diversified farming they want the cooperatives to provide for the making of butter or cheese, the sale of other agricultural products and the purchase of goods for use

on the farm. The members take greater interest in their societies which appear as an extension of their farms and help develop methods of production better suited to the market and achieved at lower cost.

Life Insurance Co-ops

In 1936, the Catholic Farmers Union created its life insurance society. This cooperative has as its members farmers and lumbermen as well as their families. It aims to make insurance available at the lowest cost, and ultimately to build up enough capital to promote the economic progress of the rural population. It includes 2400 policy-holders. Its policies total \$2,200,000 and in 1942 the percentage of renewal premiums actually paid in reached 98-9%.

Cooperation has also developed in other fields: for instance, there are now 90 consumers' societies with an aggregate membership of 10,000. The movement is young and yet the total business transacted by cooperative stores exceeds \$1,000,000. Several interesting initiatives are at least worthy of mention, in the fields of electricity, fisheries, hop-gardening, bakeries, flax, etc.

Co-op Federation

Finally, an important group of rural societies have been federated since 1922, and their head office for marketing and purchasing is known as the Coopératif Fédérée. In 1941 this society had a turnover of 17¾ million dollars, and in 1942, \$23,400,000. It has incorporated 287 societies or local unions totalling 23,000 members. In six years it has repaid \$339,827.71 to its members.

Going further, and playing a similar part to that of the English Cooperative Union, the Coopératif Fédérée endeavours to popularize the cooperative doctrine and to educate its farmers in general as well as its own members. For that aim, it has been spending an average of \$30,000 for the last few years. Its affiliated societies are inspected, their accounts are audited; technical information, whether agricultural or commercial, is supplied together with instruction in cooperative methods.

The purchase and sale prices of the "Fédérée" serve as a standard. To the farmer it is a safeguard, a source of information and profit; it is owned and financed by its members.

In the Province of Quebec, the vast majority of societies and unions restrict their transaction to the parish. A small minority cover two or three parishes or a region; only a few extend over the whole province.

Good Legislation Has Helped

It is often said, and truly so, that in the cooperative world, legislation does not make cooperatives; but in the Province of Quebec it has greatly promoted the cooperative movement.

Our cooperatives can be organised under two acts: the Agricultural Cooperatives Act and the Cooperative Union Act. The "Fedérée" comes under a special law.

At the times of its foundation a cooperative society must include at least 25 members who have to choose between subscribing 50 and 100 shares of stock and who moreover are pledged to deliver or purchase certain products through their society. This is a prerequisite to incorporation. At first sight these restrictions are rather surprising but experience has shown their wisdom, for they help to ensure at the outset a minimum volume of business and the indispensable means to the success of cooperative activities which under the law are limited to the professional field.

The Cooperative Union Act, relating to popular banks and cooperative stores, is devoid of such restrictions. Twelve persons may form a union by subscribing a minimum of \$1,000 each. These unions can deal with anything. There is no contract. The regulations framed by the agricultural union, and generally adopted by local unions, embody the provisions of agricultural unions with regard to membership, shares and contract. The result is that cooperatives in rural areas follow the same pattern.

Such as they are, cooperative institutions in the province, whatever the field, help their members to regain their political independence. They have trained them to pool their efforts, to become better acquainted, and to realize more keenly their interdependence. These results are worth even more than economic progress. Year after year the cooperative idea grows, members become more convinced and more active. Thus it is that a substantial group of Quebec people are quietly endeavouring to live up to their Christian and democratic ideal.

TAXATION OF CO-OPERATIVES

It is perfectly proper that co-operative enterprises should be exempt from income taxation, inasmuch as they are not organized to yield profits, but to render services to the membership at cost. Theoretically a co-operative should end its business year with outgo and income evenly balanced, after making provision for necessary reserves.

The term "patronage dividend" is unfortunate. It carries an erroneous implication. It is simply a refund to patrons of excessive charges for services.

As costs cannot be exactly estimated without a knowledge of the total volume of business to be handled, prudent management must fix service charges at a safe minimum at the beginning of its business year, adjusting the charges at the end of the year on the basis of actual results. The whole taxation controversy obviously hinges on a mere bookkeeping problem.

MARKET COMMENTS

Changes in prices during the month include several of a more or less seasonal nature. There was, for instance, a decline in the price of veal which is due to the seasonal supply rather than to any decline in the price of live stock generally. It may be mentioned in this connection that the meat supply coming forward now has increased in line with expectations of producers feeding cattle to heavier weights due to generous feed supplies, as forecast earlier.

The prices of good and choice lambs are quoted per head instead of per hundredweight, a common custom at this season.

Increases during the month in prices of both apples and potatoes are also to a certain degree seasonal.

The slight decline in the price of hogs recorded during the month cannot be due to seasonal influences. This may be an indication of a less tight position in meat supply generally.

An important factor in supplies forthcoming is the amount of feed on hand. The report of grain on hand at the end of March is now available. This report shows three times as much wheat and oats on farms as at the same period last year and nearly four times as much barley. This report also estimates the feeding of wheat to live stock on farms on which grown at 74 million bushels for the current year as compared with 56 million fed during the previous year.

From now on the weather promises to be the important factor marketwise. The lateness of the season is compensated for to a great degree by the abundance of feed still on farms from the bumper crops of last year.

Trend of Prices

	April 1942 \$	March 1943 \$	April 1943 \$
LIVE STOCK:			
Steers, good, per cwt.	10.20	12.35	12.30
Cows, good, per cwt.	8.00	10.15	10.15
Cows, common, per cwt.	6.00	8.10	8.05
Canners and Cutters, per cwt.	5.10	6.95	6.65
Veal, good and choice, per cwt.	12.15	15.66	14.50
Veal, common, per cwt.	—	14.60	13.10
Lambs, good and choice, per head	8.50	—	10.50
Lambs, common, per cwt.	5.60	14.65	14.50
Bacon, hogs, dressed, B.1, per cwt.	15.33	17.30	17.00
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:			
Butter, per lb.	0.35	0.36	0.35
Cheese, per lb.	0.23	0.22	0.22
Eggs, Grade A, large, per doz.	0.30	0.35	0.35
Chickens, live, 5 lb., plus, per lb.	0.26	0.31	0.29
Chickens, dressed, milk fed, A, per lb.	0.28	0.34½	0.35
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES:			
Apples, B.C. McIntosh, extra fancy, per box.	—	2.75-3.00	2.75-3.00
Potatoes, Quebec No. 1, per 75 lb. bag	1.60	1.80	1.90
FEED:			
Bran, per ton	29.00	29.00	29.00



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec

Department of Agriculture

C. E. Benoit Comes to Quebec

Charles E. Benoit, B.S.A., concluded his services as Chief Poultry Promoter, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, on March 30 and the following day left for Quebec City to take charge of poultry work for the Quebec Department of Agriculture. Prior to his departure he was presented by his fellow workers with a travelling bag. The presentation was made by Dr. W. V. Longley, Director of Extension, in the office of the Principal of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. Regrets at the severance of seven years of pleasant relations and best wishes on the entry into another field of service were expressed by various speakers. Mr. Benoit, who in the words of Dr. Longley, "is one of the best extension workers in Canada", is widely and pleasantly known throughout this province. His leaving is a matter of regret to Nova Scotia poultrymen to whom he has been a friend and an inspiration, and to his fellow workers who have always held him in the highest regard. He is a native of Antigonish County, a graduate of the N.S.A.C., and a former employee of the Federal Department of Agriculture.

Hon. John A. McDonald, Minister of Agriculture, in paying tribute to the work done by Mr. Benoit while with



Mr. Benoit addressing Quebec poultry men at a luncheon arranged in his honour by the Quebec Poultry Industry Committee. the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture spoke of the loss suffered both by the Department and the poultry industry in the province. He congratulated Mr. Benoit on his new appointment and extended to him the best wishes of the Department.

THE AGRICULTURAL MERIT COMPETITION

This year's Agricultural Merit Competition will be the fifty-third since this activity began in 1890, and will be held throughout District No. 4, which comprises the counties of Temiscamingue, Pontiac, Hull, Gatineau, Papineau, Labelle, Montcalm, Joliette, Berthier, Maskinonge, St. Maurice, Three Rivers, Champlain, Laviolette and Portneuf.

The competition is open to any farmer in this district: there is no entry fee and forms of application may be obtained by writing to Alex. Rioux, Department of Agriculture, Quebec. June 1st is the closing date: no applications received later than that will be considered.

The Agricultural Merit Competition brings rewards and recognition for progressive farmers. The provincial winner gets a gold medal, the badge of the Order and a suitable cash award. Silver and bronze medals are awarded each year in numbers, to those who have shown that they

know the principles of successful farming. Membership in the order, evidenced by the possession of one or another of these medals, is a proof of good rural citizenship.

When the competition was last held in District No. 4, in 1938, Mr. J. Henri Bettez of Ste. Marguerite was the gold medallist.

A NEW PREMIUM FOR GOOD WOOL

Quebec farmers will get a bonus of four cents per pound for clean fleeces this year as a result of an agreement made between the Federal and Provincial Department of Agriculture. Any producer in the Province may apply for the bonus if the following conditions are observed. The wool must be consigned or shipped to an accredited warehouse approved by the Canadian Wool Commission or else sold to a purchaser who holds a license from the Commission. Fleeces must be tied with paper twine. Further details about the operation of the plan may be had from your local agronomist.

Set Your Hens to Work

Two dozen more eggs from every bird in 1943.

Quebec hens lay between 115 and 120 eggs in a year. But with Great Britain asking for all the eggs we can ship, this isn't good enough. The hens will have to step up their output to the point where they are laying 24 more eggs a year than they are doing now.

Some suggestions as to how they can be encouraged to do this are given by the experts. Laying hens should be kept as long as they are producing; at any rate, until the pullets start laying. Poor layers should be disposed of: it is poor economy to feed "boarders". Hens should be kept in a proper hen run, and not be allowed to roam all over the farm. Overcrowding in the henhouse should be avoided at all costs: every hen needs from 3 to 4 square feet of floor space. Green pasture is essential during the summer and all feed and water should be clean and fresh.

We are going to need a lot of poultry meat, too. Keep cockerels of the heavy breeds until they are 4 pounds at least in weight. Any bird sold for meat should be well fattened and finished before being marketed.

Our contract with Britain calls for 63 million dozen eggs. Home consumption is about 25 or 30 dozen eggs and 20 pounds of meat per person, and this must be provided for too. We can't raise all this unless every flock owner does his best to increase his production during the coming year.

Wanted: More Grain

Wartime demands require 60 bushels more grain from every farm, particularly more barley and mixed grain.

The Provincial Committee for Intensive Production has asked Quebec farmers to raise more grain this year. Pork, butter, eggs, meat, all of which must be raised in greater amounts than ever before, are nothing more or less than finished products of which field crops — grain — is the raw material.

On the average Quebec farm in 1942 there were sown 11 acres of oats, 1 acre of barley and $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres of mixed grains. The harvest amounted to about 360 bushels of all three of these crops per farm. This is not enough, especially in a time like this. Every farm should produce an extra 60 bushels this year.

Three things will have to be done: increase yields per acre, increase the space devoted to grain: improve the quality of the crop. To reach this triple objective, many things must be taken into account — better cultural practices, good drainage, early seeding, use of seed disinfectants, fertilization, and the sowing of more mixed grain (1 bushel of oats, 1 bushel of barley and $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of wheat).

Pass the Potatoes, Please

More potatoes are needed this year.

Many foods are rationed today — more may be rationed soon. With what are we going to replace them, or with what shall we supplement them? One answer is—potatoes.

Experts in the Department of Agriculture have calculated that we will have enough potatoes in 1943 if we raise 20% more than we did in 1942. Broken down into terms of individual farms, this means that every farmer should plant 4 bags more than he did last year — that is, he will use $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre more for potatoes this year.

But the same results could be obtained by using certified seed in every potato field and by keeping better check on diseases and insects. Our average harvest in Quebec of 125 bushels of potatoes to the acre is low, and could be much higher with a little care and attention.

Potato growing is profitable: it brings in the largest returns per acre of any crop. The estimate is \$65.70 per acre, compared with an average of \$13.00 for all other field crops. And a field of potatoes rounds out a rotation programme admirably and the cultivation it requires is a splendid way of getting the field into good condition. Why not grow a few more spuds this year?

Fifty Million Pounds of Veal

Veal is being sold too young or too light.

Milk fed veal is a profitable by-product of the dairy industry, provided the marketed product has been properly finished so that acceptable meat will result. We could market, here in the Province of Quebec, 50,000,000 pounds of veal every year. But, unfortunately, our veal goes to market too soon. In 1942, of 203,277 animals marketed, only 13,662, or not quite 7%, graded good quality.

It is suggested that veal calves be raised to a weight of between 150 and 175 pounds before they are marketed: that would be about 20 pounds more than they weigh now. Twenty pounds isn't much in a time of abundance, but now, with meat so scarce that it is rationed, those few pounds are badly needed.

It doesn't take much labour to raise veal, and this meat makes a good substitute for beef. Do not sell a single calf until it is 5 weeks old, and feed it on nothing but milk. If this is done our markets will have a supply of animals which, if not all high quality will at least be good quality and a source of profit to the farmer.

Saboteurs in the Victory Garden

The following eight insects are those which are most likely to cause damage to vegetable gardens this year in Eastern Canada.

Cutworms are probably the most generally destructive insects found in gardens; they are of greatest concern when the plants are small. They are gray to brownish caterpillars which hide in the soil during the day and emerge at night to feed on a wide variety of plants. They usually cut through the stems at the surface of the ground, though some species attack the leaves. They can be controlled by spreading a poisoned-bran mash about the garden in the late evening. To 25 pounds of bran add either 1/2 pound of Paris Green or 1 pound of arsenate of lime or 1 pound of sodium fluosilicate, and enough water to make the mixture moist but not sloppy.

Cabbage maggots will likely appear next. This maggot attacks the roots of such plants as cabbages, cauliflowers and radishes. It is a small, white, legless insect that makes its appearance about the middle of May. When the attack is severe many of the plants wilt and die. Transplants and seedlings can be protected by pouring corrosive sublimate solution around the stems, about the time the plum trees come into bloom. Use 1 ounce in 10 gallons of water, and repeat the treatment once or twice at 10 day intervals.

A near relative to this insect, the **onion maggot**, is a frequent visitor to gardens where onions are grown. It only attacks onions, feeding at the base of the stems and causing the young plants to wilt. Covering the onion seed with dry powdered calomel before planting will considerably reduce the amount of injury. Corrosive sublimate as used for the cabbage maggot is also satisfactory.

A small, yellow and black striped beetle, known as the **striped cucumber beetle**, will be an unwelcome visitor in most gardens about the time cucumber plants are getting started. It feeds on young cucumber, squash and melon plants, eating holes in the leaves. It hides in the foliage

and frequently escapes detection. Infested plants should be dusted with calcium arsenate and gypsum, mixed one part of the poison to 19 parts of the powder.

In Eastern Canada, seedling carrots are frequently attacked by a small, whitish maggot which is the young of the **carrot rust fly**. This maggot is first noted in early June, making rusty-red tunnels in the roots. Injured seedling wilt and die and sometimes the damage is quite severe. By delaying the planting of the carrot seed until early June, most of the carrot rust flies will have disappeared before the young seedlings come up through the soil. On early planting use corrosive sublimate.

By mid-June potato plants will be well above ground and the **Colorado potato beetle** will be at hand to attack the new crop. It is an annual visitor frequently to be seen on the surface of the ground even before the potatoes have broken through the soil. Spraying or dusting the vines with an arsenical, such as calcium arsenate or lead arsenate, fortunately will kill most of the beetles as well as the young grubs on the leaves. To control the old beetles use 2 pounds of arsenate of lime, or 3 pounds of arsenate of lead, in 40 gallons of water. The young grubs can be killed with a solution half as strong.

Green worms or caterpillars will probably be noticed on cabbages, cauliflowers and allied plants during late June and early July. These are known as imported cabbage worms. They feed on the outer leaves at first but later bore their way into the heads. Dusting the central part of each plant, when the caterpillars first appear, with diluted arsenate of lead will give adequate protection.

Slugs, though not insects, sometimes cause serious losses in gardens but usually only during periods of abnormally wet weather or if the vegetables are growing in very damp soil. The feeding of slugs can be effectively checked by dusting the infested plants, as well as the soil beneath, with hydrated lime. This should be done in the late evening for best results.

Farm Machinery in Critical State

Which is more important, a few more tractors on Quebec farms or another tank or airplane in North Africa or Russia? That is a question the individual farmer cannot answer. In fact, few persons have enough information to appraise that problem. Even then, it is largely a question of judgment as to manpower at home and in the armed forces, industrial production for the armed forces and our allies, and food requirements for our civilians, armed forces, and allies or occupied countries. Farm families have sons, brothers, and cousins in the armed forces and realize, as well as any group, the necessity of supplying these boys in the best possible way with good and sufficient fighting equipment.

Indications are that more and more attention is being given to food as an implement of war. If that is true, it is reasonable to assume that more attention will be given to the production of food; and that means labor and machinery.

Farmers are asked to continue producing food at the record levels of the past few years. They will attempt to do this with fewer workers and less experienced help and with less fertilizer, spray materials, and other farm supplies. This places an abnormal strain on farm machinery. There is certain to be a shortage of new machinery and of repair parts to keep old machinery in operation. The problem then becomes one of taking care of the present machinery in the best possible way and of using it most efficiently.

HIGHER PRICES FOR FLAX FIBRE

The Special Products Board announced recently that the British Ministry of Supply and the Commodity Credit Corporation of the United States Department of Agriculture have agreed to increase the prices paid for Canadian dew-retted Scutched Flax Fibre by 10 cents per pound or 24 per cent, effective September 15, 1943, for each of the grades Canada 1, 2, 3, and 4, with the same differential of value between grades as exist at the present time. The new prices will be 55, 53, 51, and 47 cents per pound respectively F.O.B. rail shipping point of producers. This new schedule of prices has been granted to encourage an increased acreage in 1943 and to offset increased production costs, chiefly labour, during the past two years.

All scutched flax produced in Canada is used solely for essential war purposes and over 90 per cent is shipped on a 50-50 basis to the United Kingdom and the United States. The remaining quantity is retained for essential war purposes in Canada. Last year 47,000 acres were grown in Canada with an estimated value of \$3,892,000.

CORRECTION

The daily newspapers last month published the following statement: "Canada has ten flax mills: three in Quebec, four in Ontario, two in Manitoba and one in Alberta.

This is not correct. There were eighteen flax mills running in Quebec during the 1942 season. Two of those were burned down during the winter but it is expected that they will be rebuilt soon.

Quebec produced 27,760 acres of flax in organized centres, while small independent growers produced another 3,000 acres in 1942.

BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION

In March 1943 (corresponding figures for 1942 given within brackets) butter production amounted to 1,874,809 (960,033) pounds, showing an increase of 95.3 per cent.

Cheese production amounted to 146,053 (1,130,412) pounds, showing a decrease of 87.1 per cent as compared with the same month last year.

During the three first months of 1943, the total production of butter reached 4,362,731 (2,136,796) pounds and is 104.2 per cent ahead that of the corresponding period 1942.

The cumulative cheese production has reached 513,736 (3,031,682) pounds, showing a decrease of 83.1 per cent.

HIGHER PREMIUMS FOR CANNING CROPS

A committee from the Quebec Department of Agriculture has succeeded in obtaining higher premiums for canning crops for 1943. These premiums, which are paid by the Federal Government, will be as shown below, where the premiums in force in 1942 are also listed.

	1942	1943
Tomatoes	\$1.00	\$3.00 per ton
Corn	2.00	4.00
Peas (shelled)	7.50	10.00
Peas, straw weight,.....	1.50	2.00
Beans	5.00	7.50

These premiums are paid direct to the producer and represent some \$300,000 for Quebec growers.

QUEBEC BULLS GO TO NOVA SCOTIA

Two outstanding Ayrshire bulls were recently purchased in Quebec, one for the Indian Residential School at Shubenacadie and the other for Mount Cameron Farm, Antigonish.

W. R. Retson, Dairy Herd Inspector, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, who made the purchases stated that the bulls were selected not only for their individuality and production backing but also because they carried considerable of the blood lines of the females owned at the institutions for which they were purchased.

For the Indian Residential School Mr. Retson chose Burnside Royal Crown, bred by R. R. Ness and Sons at Howick and owned by Oscar Belisle, St. Hyacinthe. For the Mount Cameron Farm was bought Maska Vice Admiral Bo, from the Maska Dairy Farm at St. Hyacinthe. What most impressed Mr. Retson on his trip to this province was the wonderful uniformity in type, production and constitution in the herds where line breeding was practised as against out crossing. He said on his return that he would advise breeders very strongly to adopt a breeding policy following a system of line breeding and development of the best family of families in their herds.

QUEBEC FARM LABOUR BUREAU

The Quebec branch office of the Farm Labour Bureau is at 90 St. Joseph St. This office is prepared to receive requests for help in finding farm workers for the coming season, and will also handle applications for positions on farms from would-be workers.

Another office will be opened in Montreal shortly: the address will be announced as soon as a site is chosen.

Back the Attack With Victory Bonds



THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

That Garden of Yours

by Laura C. Pepper

Chief, Consumer Section Dominion Department of Agriculture

"Of course we will be planting a garden this year just as we have done other years because we count so much on using those good beans, peas, tomatoes and greens all summer long, to say nothing of the cabbage, turnips, onions and other "easily stored" vegetables which are our regular standbys throughout the winter."

No doubt most of you who read these columns would say just that, so why should someone who can claim to be no more than a mere amateur have the presumption to talk about gardening to you who, through years of experience with seeds, weeds and diggers, know much more about the subject?

Don't be unduly disturbed. This is not a treatise on the hows of gardening but rather a comely reminder of the value of that garden you're planning to you, your family — yes, and even to the nation. In these days of more work than hours in which to do it, there is no harm in stopping to think of the value and the place of the products of that bit of soil which you, without chance of contradiction, rightly refer to as *your* garden.

Food has fittingly been called a 'munition of war' — 'a vital war material,' and the significance of this reference is quite apparent to all of us Canadians as the challenge goes out for greater production of food stuffs. This applies not only to our own land but to our neighbours across the border who have the same immediate objective. Food and more food is needed for our allies, our men in the forces, the ships that come to our shores and, last but not least, for you Mrs. John Jones and your family of growing Canadians who must be nourishingly fed so that these future citizens will have a fair chance for physical fitness. To quote in part a recent message of the National President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada — "Nutrition holds, with war work, the centre of the stage in our programmes, yet let us be ever conscious of the fact that our future citizen has a mental and moral side to his nature as well as a physical, and all are equally important."

It is in moulding that physical side that your garden comes into the picture for vegetables, in varying degrees, are essentials in the daily meal pattern. Gardens mean work — hours and hours of work — if they are to be the success they must be this year. It will be harder to find those hours but you will find them because your garden is of greater importance than ever before. In fact it is a definite part of your contribution to victory. The more

each family can produce for its own use, the less will have to be transported to them. The more good, healthful vegetables taken out of the home plot, the greater the contribution they will make to the daily meals of the family for months to come. The greater variety of vegetables grown, the less noticeable will be the comparative scarcity of other foods from the table. And so your home garden plays a role in the national agricultural programme, not in the sense that what it yields will find its way to markets here and abroad in the same way as eggs, pork, cheese and even dehydrated vegetables do, but your garden, duplicated thousands of times throughout the country, will allow for more of all of these things to take that much needed course.

Is there something of the architect about you? If so, you revel in making plans — plans on paper — and by this time you will have your garden plotted out just waiting for the day of transplanting from paper to soil. Your work sheet will probably not be an exact replica of last year's garden for you have taken stock and have decided where some changes and improvements can be made to bring it even closer to perfection. Yes, there must be more beans, the green, and perhaps yellow, beans planted in two or three sowings at intervals of about ten days which means there is always a new crop of fresh, tender ones ready for the picking and many extra ones from those prolific plants to put down in salt for winter use. And then more tomatoes — those firm ones — "Bonny Best" and "John Baer" — they were, so good and so popular that there weren't enough for canning. This must not happen this year, tomatoes are so easily canned and make into juice, and nutritionists tells us how good they are for us especially when most fresh vegetables and fruits are out of season. It is then, more tomatoes and fewer cucumbers. The cucumbers did take up too much precious space last year and there really were more on the vines than could be used, even though all the "cucumberless" neighbours enjoyed them at their tables, too. Those smooth-skinned, dry potatoes, such good bakers and very light and fluffy when mashed — there must be two more long rows of them because they will go far in making meat go farther. As for carrots, beets, onions and turnips they lasted well into the spring but it might be just as well to plant a little more of each. And last but not least, those firm heads of cabbage which store very well in the slatted bin. A few

more heads will mean more bowls of shredded cabbage salad — the kind that everyone in the house likes to see on the table often during the winter months.

The stage is set, ready for the day when, with the soil prepared for its summer's work, the first seeds can be put in the ground, high quality of recommended varieties of vegetable seeds, because nothing but the best is good enough for your garden. Wouldn't it be nice if this is all there was to gardening — planting the seeds and watch-them grow? Very nice indeed, but nothing so worthwhile comes to us as easily as that. Nature does much but the tender young plants need some of your kind attention for diseases are prone to prey upon them, weeds begin to grow and even the little beasties of the soil have designs on your vegetables. Yes indeed, the horticulturist tells us in no uncertain terms what might happen to a neglected

garden but the wise gardener heeds his warnings and follows a plan of prevention rather than cure.

Finally, for a moment, let us turn from the practical to the esthetic. Don't you think there is a spot somewhere among those vegetables, perhaps right at the end of the garden, for a row or two of vivid zinnias or "bursting with bloom" Sweet William? Who knows but that the vegetables will be spurred to even greater effort in the presence of such beauty, to say nothing of the pleasure their colour and fragrance will afford both in and out-of-doors.

These publications are available by writing to the Publicity and Extension Division, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

The Wartime Garden
Canning Fruits and Vegetables (with recipes for jams and jellies).

Women's Institutes and Publicity

by M. Elizabeth McCurdy

The greater part of the Quebec Women's Institutes publicity is used in the daily and weekly press of the Province, the Maritimes and Eastern Ontario. The daily Press is the most likely field for the descriptions of the activities of the W. I. where articles dealing with subjects which make a general appeal to the feminine portion of the reading public have their origin.

The various literary markets have characteristics of their own, and these must be kept in mind by those who seek space in their columns. There is always a welcome and plenty of scope in the daily Press for the writer who has special knowledge about some subject which is of special interest to a large section of the public. The wide range of interests which can be drawn upon in the woman's world to-day makes a fruitful source for articles which are of interest to woman readers, and thus are of journalistic value.

The amazing development in the work of women in the last few years, the new careers which have opened to them, the concern for the welfare of the child, domestic economy, labour-saving ideas and thrift, all present fields for those who write with a purely feminine appeal. Fashion notes, dressmaking, needlework should not be attempted by any writer who is less than a trained expert along these lines. Cooking is another line it is wise to let alone. Cookery features belong to those who have had special training in the work, and recipes must be tested by experts before it is safe to publish them. It is usually more difficult to sell this kind of information than any other.

There is a steady call in the woman's pages for the free-lance woman writer. Factual articles stand high in the estimation of editors of this section of the daily press. The

practical side of women's life and work is the first requirement of most editors of women's pages. The writer should study the pages she aspires to write for and comply with the demands of their style as far as possible. Short, bright articles and discussions on problems which concern women in their every day life will find a ready place in many magazines. Stories with a seasonal appeal, as gardening, conservation of food materials, thrift, chicken-raising and the care of bees are used in many of the more rural magazines.

At the same time a broader scope must be used if the writer is to command the attention and respect of the more intellectual of her public. The status of women in other countries, her work and living conditions, her emergence from her previous position as man's inferior all make interesting topics for the writer, and should not be neglected. Articles of this nature will be re-printed in many magazines, giving the writer a much larger audience than would be the case with a more local subject.

FIRST WOMAN MEMBER OF SCHOOL BOARD?

We would like to advise you that Miss Elizabeth McLellan, who helped organize the Institute in this town and was our first President, was elected to the School Board of the Town of East Angus last summer. She is the first woman to be elected to our School Board and we like to think that she is the first Institute member in the Province of Quebec to become a member of a School Board. What do you say?

—Myrtle Lipsey, Sec. East Angus W.I.

Q.W.I. NOTES

March is the month for the annual meetings and election of officers and conveners in the Branch Institutes of the Province. Many of these will hold office for the first time, and changes and adjustments will have to be made where necessary before the local work can proceed with smoothness and in its accepted grooves. Much of this will be a repetition of previous years, just as the work of the home maker is repeated over and over again, repeating the pattern of life, until the whole is finished.

Several Counties have sent annual reports, which of course cannot be published here, as each month's doings are more than enough to fill all the space allowed.

A branch in Bonaventure, of which the name was not given, prepared and sent two ditty bags, valued at \$10.00. An address on Our Valiant Merchant Seamen was a feature of the meeting.

Many branches were unable to meet in February owing to weather conditions, several meetings being cancelled in Bonaventure owing to this cause.

Gatineau County.

Mrs. J. R. Cox, a member of the International Committee for the study of the Causes and Cure of War, was the speaker at the Aylmer East meeting, and told of meetings she had attended. Ten dollars to the Self-Denial Fund, and thirteen dollars to the Red Cross were voted by the meeting in Wakefield Branch. Mrs. John Legg gave a paper on Substitutes for Rubber. Clothing was provided for local needs, and bundles of cloth were sent to England. Ten dollars were voted to the Russian Relief Fund. A McGill Travelling Library was secured, and a musical contest held. Miss Nault, Health Nurse, gave a talk on First Aid in Kazabazua Branch. The sum of \$55.70 was collected for the Russian Relief Fund. Eardley Branch received thirty letters of appreciation from men overseas for boxes of comforts sent from the Branch. \$35.00 was collected for the Russian Relief Fund. Rupert sent \$5.00 to the Red Cross drive, and \$5.00 to the Russian Relief Fund. Wright Branch donated \$5.00 to the Red Cross, also two quilts.

Gaspé County.

The four Branches in this County are working both for local needs and for the men in the Services. Fairs with exhibits by the school children was a feature of the work. Twelve ditty bags were filled for the Merchant Marine, 157 articles sent for Russian Relief, and money to the British Children's War fund. The Salvation Army was assisted with donations, and contributions made to the Self-Denial Fund. A McGill Travelling Library was secured for use in the County. A Red Cross drive was undertaken by one Branch, and resulted in the sum of \$103.75.

Huntingdon and Chateauguay Counties.

Dundee Branch discussed the benefits of the little red School-house. An article on Woman as a Citizen, also a biography of Queen Elizabeth were on the programme. Seven dollars were donated to the Russian Relief Fund. Howick provided layettes for the Barrie Memorial Hospital and sent three dollars worth of seeds to Britain. A discussion on rationed foods was a feature of the meeting. Aubrey-Riverfield had a discussion on child welfare and public health.

Mississquoi County.

Cowansville Branch sent seeds to Britain. Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Cox gave interesting papers on current subjects as programme.

Richmond County.

Richmond Hill Branch reports a donation of \$10.00 to the Red Cross, and several quilts made. Spooner Pond had a paper on Kitchen Hints. Cleveland had a paper on Publicity and handed in completed Red Cross work, donating \$5.00 to the same cause. Melbourne Ridge voted \$20.00 to the Red Cross.

Rouville County.

Abbotsford Branch presented life-membership pins to Mrs. A. S. Crossfield and Mrs. F. N. Crossfield, retiring secretary and assistant secretary. Miss Margery Fisk, gave an interesting address on Vegetables and Vitamins. Readings were given by Mrs. Sydney Fisk and Mrs. F. N. Crossfield.

Stanstead County.

Ayer's Cliff sponsored a medical examination in the local school when 94 pupils were examined. Hot lunches were provided during the winter months for out-of-town pupils. Mrs. N. W. Lobb gave a paper on post-war conditions. Minton had an address by Inspector Bartlett on the Larger Administration as it affects Schools. A review of Bruce Hutchison's book: The Unknown Country, by Mrs. C. Daintrey, reading of Edgar Guest's poems by Mrs. Ryan and a discussion on the value of the radio in the home were highlights of the programme. Hatley gave prizes in the local school, bought \$25.00 worth of War Certificates, donated \$10.00 to the Red Cross, replenished the school emergency kit, donated \$5.00 to the local library, \$1.00 per member to the Self-denial fund, and sent seeds to Britain.

Dixville discussed war-time buying. North Hatley sent a shipment of 71 articles of clothing to Bundles for Britain, co-operated with Miss Stone's Art Exhibit as done by the pupils, and donated \$10.00 to the local skating-rink. \$25.00 were given in school prizes during the year. An underprivileged child was given care, with a possibility of hospital operation. Way's Mills stressed health measures, giving statistics on various diseases. Tomifobia donated \$8.00 to assist in sending a Child Worker to Britain. Clothing was provided for a school boy, and a donation given towards a soup fund for the school. Stanstead North did knitting for all local boys overseas, and is sending

them boxes of comforts.

Sherbrooke County.

Cherry River Branch had a paper on Agriculture in the early days of Canada, and another by Mrs. B. Katt on organizations for farmer's wives in the community. Belvedere filled three ditty bags and sent eight quilts, an afghan and thirty knitted articles to the Red Cross. Brompton Road reports four large and three crib quilts for the Red Cross and two boxes packed for overseas. This branch has a liaison officer with the War-Time Prices and Trade Board in the person of Mrs. E. I. Hatch. Mrs. R. H. Ashe was guest speaker at Milby meeting, speaking on the subject of War-time economy. Five dollars was given from the Treasury to the Red Cross drive. Red Cross work was received and more given out. Lennoxville Branch reported 17 seamen's vests completed by the members. A total of 1654 articles were knitted for the Red Cross by members of the W.I. A donation of \$2.00 was voted towards the replenishing of the Lennoxville Room in the Wales Home at Richmond. The Branch will fill three ditty bags for sailors later in the year. Ascot Branch co-operated in holding a Farm Forum and Film Forums in the Community School. Over 400 articles of knitting and sewing were done for the Red Cross, 13 quilts and 10 ditty bags, and \$19.00 contributed in cash. About \$115.00 was spent on war work. Contacts were made and sustained with Scottish W.R.I. during the past winter.

Ascot Branch Celebrates Anniversary

A delightful community gathering took place in Ascot Consolidated School in April, when the Ascot Branch of the Q.W.I. celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding. Mrs. R. H. Ashe, County President, gave a resume of outstanding features of the work of the years when every possible need of the School and the community was supplied. Basic work in health and public welfare resulted in a regular method by which medical inspection of schools is annually carried out. Fitting tribute was paid to the pioneer charter members, some of whom are still active.

The guest speaker of the evening was Mrs. M. E. McCurdy, for several years a resident in Ascot, who on request gave a brief history of the Municipality since the days of its emergence from the primeval forests. Post-war opportunities for work were stressed as the main topic of the address which followed.

Music was provided by Miss Thelma Crawford, accompanied by Mrs. Farquhar of Lennoxville, and by Miss Ste. Marie, a promising young pianist from the Experimental Farm. A feature of the delicious refreshments which were served, and which gratified the eye as well as the appetite, was a beautifully decorated birthday cake, with twenty-five lighted candles, the handiwork of Mrs. Hyatt, a member of the Branch. A friendly and social spirit pervaded the gathering, making the occasion one to be long remembered.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS ACT

In Quebec, the only protection for neglected and dependent children is THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS ACT. This legislation provides for institutional care only. It does not include foster home care, social services to attempt to preserve the child's home nor in the event of placement, does it provide for his protection and rehabilitation back into the community.

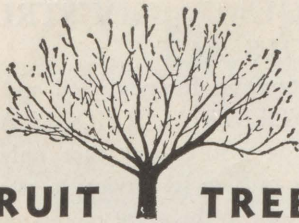
Recently, at the request of the Provincial Authorities a conference was held at which French and English-speaking Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish representatives of Industrial Schools and social planning bodies met and drew up suggestions for making the INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS ACT a more effective one for protecting the child and preserving family life. The general principles outlined as a basis for improved legislation were as follows—

1. To change the name from "INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS" to "AGENCIES FOR THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN".
2. To develop a provincial-wide plan to investigate all cases of child neglect and work for the preservation of the child's own home.
3. Should placement of a child away from his own home be necessary, to provide a programme of institutional and foster home care to be used according to the needs of the child.
4. To have public inspection of such services and provincial leadership in this work by qualified social workers.
5. To provide some type of guardianship to orphans or neglected children until twenty-one years of age.

DEPENDENCE

There is but one person whose welfare is as vital to the welfare of the whole country as is that of the wage worker who does manual labor, and that is the tiller of the soil—the farmer. If there is one lesson taught by history it is that the permanent greatness of any State must ultimately depend more upon the character of its country population than upon anything else. No growth of cities, no growth of wealth, can make up for a loss in either the number or the character of the farming population. In the United States more than in almost any other country we should realize this and should prize our country population. When this Nation began its independent existence it was as a nation of farmers. The towns were small and were for the most part mere sea-coast trading and fishing ports. The chief industry of the country was agriculture and the ordinary citizen was in some way connected with it. In every great crisis of the past a peculiar dependence has had to be placed upon the farming population; and this dependence has hitherto been justified. But it cannot be justified in the future if agriculture is permitted to sink in the scale as compared with other employments.

—Theodore Roosevelt.



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O G how sweet are spring!
With flowerous buds abusting!
And singbirds on the wing!
It's all so interesting!

I wood I was a duck!
Or uke a y-kelele!
This labors I would chuck!
Sweet song I'ds warble daily!

O hear this robins swoop!
O hear this sperrers flitter!
Them hummingbirds, how whoop!
Thus bum bullbee, how skitter!

I would I are a gophe!
A wild one, truly rilly!
Beneath thus grass i'd loaf!
How cookoo sweet! What silly!

Thus world wake ups agree!
Cute butterflies afflecker!
I love them worm I seen!
And O! thou wild wouldpecker!

Dough me sew la seed dough!
Who ray'. The daffs is dilling!
Aint them weeds purty though!
Aint Nature swimpily thrilling!

O jee O kosh O my!
I've gotta dance and caper'.
Sweet notions fill the sky!
Sweet notions! an some vapor!

Les sing an houp an breathe!
Les yell an bark an holler!
Les let our feelings seeethe!
Oooo! ketch me thet thare swaller!

Look how them tendrils curls!
My scents of duty's hazy!
I'd skemper with them skwurls!
But I'm 2 doggone lazy!

Apple Syrup Frees Glycerine For War Uses

Another important wartime contribution was recently discovered about apples. Here is the story as reported by Associated Press:

"Scientists in the United States Department of Agriculture's regional experiment station here started out a year ago to develop a substitute for common table sugar.

"They failed—but instead they have developed a solution which will free millions of pounds of glycerine annually for use in the manufacture of bombs and other war explosives.

"In effect, the solution is a plain syrup, made with apples.

"It will be used in tobacco processing—substituting for glycerine.

"Glycerine has been used for years in tobacco manufacture because of its high humidifying qualities. The new syrup has the same qualities, and R. E. Lathrop, assistant director of the experiment station, says it is the only suitable substitute yet found.

"Lathrop announced the development recently and disclosed that between 2,000,000 and 2,500,000 pounds will be produced commercially this year from the United States and Canadian apple crop—opening a new market for apple growers."—*Better Fruit*.

Letter to F.D.R.

Among the numerous letters received at Washington was the following:

Mr. Headquarters—

My husband was induced into the surface long months ago and I ain't received no pay from him sense he was gone.

Please sen me my elopement as I have a four months old baby and I kneed it every day to buy food and keep us enclosed.

Both sides of my parents are very old and I can suspect anything from them as my mother has been in bed thirteen years with the same doctor and wont take another.

My husband he is in charge of a spittoon. Do I get any more than I am going to get. Please send me a letter and tell me if my husband application for a wife and child and please send me a wife form to fill out.

I have already wrote to Mr. Roosevelt and got no answer and if I dont here from you I will write Uncle Sam about you and him.

Very truly,
Mrs. Paul Quinn.

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Rats, groundhogs, gophers, mice—you can clean them all out with CYANOOGAS. Just drop a big spoonful of this pest killer down the hole or burrow, close all openings and the job's done! The gas finishes them off in jig time. (Rids you of greenhouse plant pests too.) One pound of CYANOOGAS will do for 20 holes. Full directions on tin—at drug, hardware and seed stores. LAURENTIAN AGENCIES, Dept. 15, 442 St. Gabriel St., Montreal.

STRIPPINGS

by Gordon W. Geddes

How times have changed! When a man reaches for his hip now, he's probably not after either a gun or a flask but just a ration book. Still we really haven't anything to complain much about as far as rationing has gone yet or even after meat gets on the list.

* * *

Our desire to do what we could to help the bacon supply led us to take quite a chance. After considerable hunting for little pigs to supplement our meagre litter, we found some, ten days old. They were bought at a set price at four weeks old and were to be all good pigs. At that age one weighed only 4½ lbs. with the best four averaging 13 and the other four at 10 lbs. each. However, the owner took advantage of the scarcity to call them all good pigs and we had the choice of taking them all or leaving them all at the agreed price. We decided they were worth it if we saved all but the runt so brought them home. They looked pretty pale so got a dose of iron right away. The next morning the runt was dead but the rest ate as if they intended to be big pigs some day. Four days later one could see the difference in colour. They were eight weeks old yesterday. The best one weighed 39 lbs. just before feeding and the poorest one only 16 but they should get to market in time. Possibly that litter was an exception to the rule that pigs do better weaned at six or eight weeks instead of four. Under the conditions they were in they probably wouldn't have done as well left with the sow. The best one has come from below average weight at four weeks to above average at eight.

* * *

Our own litter weighed about 17 lbs. at four weeks, or 2 lbs. above average. At eight weeks they weighed from 42 to 45 lbs. while 30 lbs. is the average if weaned at that age. My mother said they'd burst open growing so fast but I guess that won't happen if they have a balanced ration so their skins grow as fast as they do. Our neighbour said

they'd had so much iron they would pass for Tamworths. They have stayed pretty pink but they'll stand that better than not being pink enough.

* * *

It may be hard to keep them all on a balanced ration to market age. Perhaps we'll even have to use ration books for protein for livestock. The government has finally 'solved' the protein scarcity by reducing the protein level of feeds. However, we hope they will not overdo the attempt to convince us that the new levels are ample for best results. We've been told the opposite so long it would make somebody look rather foolish. Our opinion of them would be much better if they told us we'd have to do our best with what protein was available and we hope they'll be able to make enough available to do the job of producing enough. No matter what we may be told the animals won't be fooled and they're in a position to enforce their opinions.

* * *

At the same time we must remember that we can do a lot ourselves to help the protein supply. The new dairy ration will balance good legume hay so we must grow more of it. Timothy has more protein if cut early, so try to get it all harvested early. Pasture grass is high in protein while young so we can try to keep fresh grazing coming on by fertilizing and keeping it fed or clipped close enough to keep it growing. Some annual pasture for August will help and maybe some fall rye for October. Pasture or green feed will also help the pigs and poultry. Advice in the U.S. was to feed grass silage in the winter to the hogs, if you had the silage and if not, plan to have some next year. It will also help to save the protein in the hay for the cattle.

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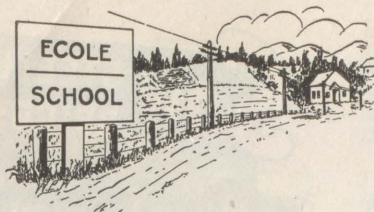
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LIVING AND LEARNING



Educators Confer at Sherbrooke

Education was approached from many angles at Sherbrooke on May 7 and 8 when a joint conference was held under the sponsorship of the High School Principals Association, the Sherbrooke and Sherbrooke County Teachers Associations, the P.A.P.T., the Macdonald College Rural Adult Education Service and the Provincial Association of Protestant School Boards.

In the adult education field it was the occasion of the annual meeting of the Eastern Townships Adult Education Council when the future of the Council as well as the future program of the Service in Community Schools and Film Circuits was under consideration.

In addition to this the Associations listed above were afforded an opportunity to meet separately Saturday

morning, as well as to enjoy in plenary session, two outstanding speakers.

Harold Chamberlin, Supervising Principal of the Whitney Point Central School in New York State dealt in two lectures with: "The Educational Advantage of the Larger Unit", and "Education Today and After the War", while John W. Barnett, General Secretary of the Alberta Teachers Association brought a message from that aggressive organization.

Much credit for the conference goes to the executive of the High School Principals Association of which David Munroe of Ormstown is President. Errol Amaron as president of the Eastern Townships Adult Education Council was also active in planning.

EXAMS FOR FORUMS

We've never really got around to setting examinations for our Farm Forums, and perhaps we never shall. We think some Forums are more effective than others, and there is a very easy way of judging.

Read the Forum Findings.

Eleanor Sim has been doing this diligently for several weeks and she is making a brief report to each Forum on its winter's work. Of course, no marks are given, and no odious comparisons are made. Such relics are old fashioned educational practice anyway.

Nevertheless, each Forum Secretary will be receiving in due course, a report of the winter's work of his Forum as revealed in the Findings.

The Back of the Page

Not a week passed this winter that a large percentage of the Findings sheets had a personal note for the Provincial Secretary on the back. Requests for information came in on topics extending from buck rakes to buck teeth.

Tall Tales were in evidence frequently.

The weights of babies newly born, the age of the oldest member, birthday celebrations, and other blessed events were listed. It was wonderful reading the back of pages. Next year we think an extra sheet should be listed headed "What did you talk about after you answered the three questions?" Sometimes, this sheet would come closer to the heart of the farm problem than the three carefully worded questions.

One Forum complained it had 7 bachelors; this deplorable state was spotlighted in the Greenleaf. Solutions came flooding in *on the back of the page*, but so far as we know, and we've studied the nuptials column of the Huntingdon Gleaner carefully ever since, no permanent solution for anyone of the seven has been found.

ONE OF THE BOYS REMEMBERS

(The following letter has been received from a member of the Co-operation course at Macdonald College in 1939.)

Somewhere in England,

March 2nd, 1943.

Dear Mr. Sim:

It was a total surprise to receive your letter, the surprise perhaps making it all the more welcome.

Much water has passed under the bridge since we were on the campus that winter. The only time that I have seen the college since has been from a train window on my way home from Camp Borden, Petawawa, Toronto, or some other Ontario camp. I used to think of those happy days that we spent there every time that I passed that place of pleasant memories.

The last few times, when at home I used to hear of Farm Forum Groups which sounded very much like your work to me. I noted with satisfaction the grouping together of the farmers for shipping cattle and buying seed grain and fertilizer. Actually I lost track of you after I heard that you had won the scholarship to an American University.

As you say my trade will stand me in good stead after

we get rid of Hitler. Since enlisting I have spent a considerable time on course, learning to be a wireless mechanic as the army puts it. After it is all over I hope to carry on in the same line of work if I can find an opening as I have now a wife and a child to care for.

It is a great field that you have chosen in the Eastern Townships. From what I hear the farmers there are co-operating to make your efforts a success. I wish you and them the best of luck.

I have not seen any of the boys over here yet but I did see a few in uniform in Canada. Perhaps I have not seen all of the Canadian army but I still have plenty of time. No doubt most of them are here by now though.

Sincerely Yours,

Allen Worby.

E-28226 Pte. A. Worby,
4 Cdn. Arm'd Bde. W/S.
Cdn. Army Overseas.

W.I. COMMENTS ON FILMS

Scotstown: The films have been much enjoyed and appreciated. Their educational value is felt to be high.

—E. M. Boy, Sec. Women's Institute.

Wakefield: There are some children right here in our own village who would never see a moving picture only for those which have been shown here in our new school. Every one hopes that they will continue throughout the summer, as we all certainly learn a lot through them.

—Mrs. Orval Brown, Sec. Women's Institute.

Kazabazua: We look forward with pleasure and keen interest to these monthly pictures. It is giving us all such a grand opportunity to see the huge war plants, and the turn out of such necessary machinery, also the way the huge crops of grain are handled out West.

I am safe in saying $\frac{3}{4}$ of our meetings have a full hall, and splendid order. When roads are passable the country people seem to have no difficulty in getting sleigh loads.

—P Hopkins, Sec. Women's Institute.

PARENTS AND CHILDREN

by Mary Avison

Family Councils.

In these days of struggle for democracy many of us are striving to implement in our own homes the principles for which we fight — and are not always finding it easy to do so. Old authoritarian methods creep in when we come suddenly face to face with an issue. "You'll do as I tell you or else . . ." Someone has to make the decision when the demands of all the family members conflict, and the parents are apt to do so because they are the most experienced or oldest or most forceful members of the family. Or they may try out the ways of self-reliance and independence for their children and discover that they are not ready to use wisely all the freedom they have been allowed. "You are old enough to settle it among yourselves", says one parent to a group of children when a game or a joint project brings division, and finds that the bigger ones or the more insistent over-ride the younger or more diffident. Is this how democracy works? How can the younger or quieter ones, when perhaps their way is really the wisest, make their will acceptable to the others?

Writers for parents often urge the use of the family council as a method of learning how to work together. Frequently this sounds very formal and impersonal. In some homes the holding of a family meeting with chairman, motions, etc. and a vote on the issue, may be not only possible but an effective and dramatic way of training the members to play their part as citizens outside the home. In many homes, however, such a procedure is foreign to the atmosphere of intimate family living, yet the idea itself can be implemented as effectively, if less formally. Dinner table or fireside discussions of family issues take the place of formal motions. The "sense of the meeting"

is taken rather than a formal vote. The result may be a decision more wholeheartedly accepted than would a majority vote which the minority still disagree with, as witness such comments from children as: "I wish we could . . . but I see now it isn't possible", or "I don't like it, but I know it's sensible and we'll get accustomed to it."

But family councils or informal family discussions are only successful and valuable if certain essential attitudes underlie their organization and carrying out. Each member of the family must feel free to express his (or her) own opinion and point of view. He must not only be free to say what he thinks, but must feel assured that his ideas will be fairly and open-mindedly considered by the others, no matter how young a member of the family group he is. Even a six year old can contribute the appropriate suggestion. Bed time arrangements were solved in a family of two small boys by a plan which was submitted by the older that they might get ready together and that then he should have half an hour with a story in mother's bed, and slip in quietly to his own when the younger was asleep. To this the mother agreed, and has found it working much better than her own arrangement of putting them both to bed at the same hour, since they had to share a room.

True democracy does not mean "one man one vote" and the right of the majority to overrule the wisdom of the minority by force of numbers. We have still to learn how to implement it in our national life as in our homes, but true democracy means the right and the responsibility of the group to benefit by the judgment of all and to follow the best plan regardless of the age, wealth, position or power of its exponents. Perhaps in our homes we may lay the foundations for the achievement of such a democracy.



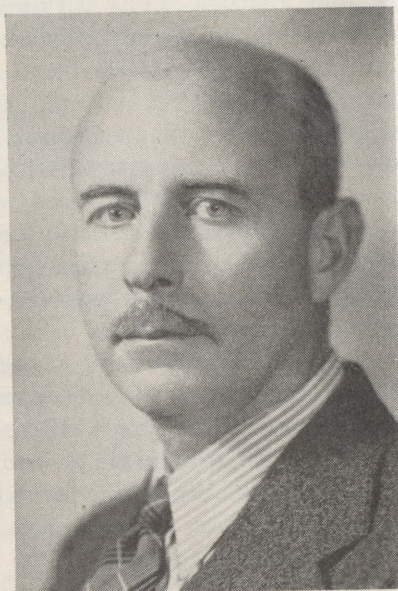
THE COLLEGE PAGE

THE MACDONALD CLAN

Notes and news of graduates and former students.

Norris Hodgins, B.S.A. '20, has been appointed General Executive Assistant in the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, where his duties will be to assist in the varied activities of that Department: assembling information and preparing general reports on agricultural matters, representing the Department on various committees, approving material for publication, etc.

Many of our readers will remember Mr. Hodgins as the editor of the old "Quebec Journal of Agriculture" from 1920 to 1937; under his expert guidance this farm



S. R. N. Hodgins

magazine became one of the leading Canadian farm journals.

While editing this Journal Mr. Hodgins was also Assistant Professor of English at the College and acted as English publicist for the Quebec Department of Agriculture. As a member of the staff of Macdonald he was a stimulating and successful teacher with enthusiasm, originality and complete mastery of his subject. He served on many College committees, took part in the early development of study group work and directed the first short course in Co-operation.

These many activities would satisfy most men, but Mr. Hodgins also found time to indulge a definite talent for humorous writing. Among his published books are "Why Don't You Get Married", "So This Is Quebec" and "So This Is Montreal", and many humorous essays, short stories and sketches were contributed to Canadian and American magazines and newspapers.

To his new position Mr. Hodgins brings excellent qualifications. His various activities have given him a breadth of knowledge and a grasp of Canadian farm problems that are quite unusual which, with his gift for writing and speaking, will enable him to make a unique contribution to Canadian agricultural progress.



OFFICERS, N.C.O's AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE MACDONALD COLLEGE DETACHMENT, CANADIAN RED CROSS CORPS, 1942-43.

